Small tea gardens in Assam

1191. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of small tea gardens in Assam and their production and growth during last five years;

(b) whether Government has any specific planning to increase the growth rate compared to last five years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Small tea gardens are manned by small tea growers. The details for the last five years are as follows:

Year	No. of small tea growers	Area under small tea growers (hectares)	Small growers production (thousand Kgs)
2004	42492	41249	62630
2005	48292	69828	90478
2006	50795	80445	99511
2007	64597	88674	106881
2008**	64597	88674	108000

** Provisional

There has been 52.02% increase in no. of small tea growers, 114.97% in area and 72.44% in production from the year 2004 to 2008.

(b) to (d) The small growers holding up to 4 ha are given assistance by way of subsidy for new planting in hilly areas above 2500 Meter above sea level and in N.E. States.

Status of Doha round of talks on international trade

1192. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Doha round of talks on international trade;

(b) whether Government held talks with US Secretary of State and US Representative in Washington in June, 2009 and conveyed that India feels that the present economic crisis should be a positive message for global trade barriers to be broken down further and global trade to move so as to help economies across the globe; and

(c) if so, whether India was ready for 'give-and-take' on restarting of Doha round of trade talks without being 'frozen in pre-negotiation position'?